Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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R 161449Z SEP 77 FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9481 INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

CONFIDENTIAL CAIRO 15381

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EINV, ETRD, EG

SUBJECT: MEETING BETWEEN FORD REPS AND MININDUSTRY SHAHINE

REF: CAIRO 15120

1. FORD REP OUROUSSOFF, IN CONVERSATION SEPT. 14, GAVE US ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON SEPT. 11 MEETING BETWEEN FORD REPS AND MININDUSTRY SHAINE (SEE PARA 5 REFTEL. OUROUSSOFF SAID HE AND FREDERICKS HAD JOINED WILLIAMS FOR THE MEETING, AND SHARKASS AND GAZARINE, IN ADDITION TO SHAHINE, WERE PRESENT ON GOE SIDE. ACCORDING OUROUSSOFF, WILLIAMS, IN ADDITION TO STRESSING THAT FORD, WHILE IT OBVIOUSLY WANTED TO BE REMOVED FROM BOYCOTT LIST, WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN FINANCIALLY UNSOUND PROJECT, ALSO TOLD SHAHINE THAT COMPANY WAS BECOMMING IMPATIENT WITH CONSTANT CHANGES OF POSITION ON PART OF GOE. SHAHINE REACTED, OUROUSSOFF SAID, IN MANNER VERY MUCH IN CONTRAST TO ATTITUDE HE HAD DISPLAYED AT DINNER PREVIOUS EVENING. SHAHINE CLAIMED THAT CONTENTIOUS ISSUES HE HAD RAISED AT DINNER MEETING WERE DESIGNED MERELY TO DEMONSTRATE SHARP QUESTIONING THAT WAS LIKELY TO ARISE IN COURSE OF PEOPLES ASSEMBLY CONSIDER-ATION OF FORD PROJECT. SHAHINE PROFESSED HIMSELF ACTUALLY CONFIDENTIAL.

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TO BE IN FAVOR OF PROJECT.

2. COMMENT: IT IS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR WHAT CAUSED SHAHINE'S APPARENT ABOUT FACE. WILLIAMS HAD SOUGHT FURTHER MEETING WITH SHAHINE, AFTER THE RATHER ACRIMONIOUS DINNER SESSION, AT SUGGESTION OF GAMAL EL NAZER, WHO SAID HE THOUGHT AN APPROACH BY WILLIAMS WOULD HELP MOLLIFY THE MINISTER. PERHAPS THIS HAD

ITS EFFECT. PERHAPS, TOO, OTHER GOE OFFICIALS PUT PRESSURE ON SHAHINE, OR HE MAY SIMPLY HAVE RUN OUT OF STEAM AFTER VOCIFEROUSLY MAKING HIS VIEWS KNOWN. EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, FOREIGN INVESTMENTS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 16-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO15381
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Expiration:

Film Number: D770338-0201

Format: TEL From: CAIRO

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770957/aaaabvok.tel

Line Count: 66 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 86e23245-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION NEA

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 77 CAIRO 15120

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 27-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 1250046 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: MEETING BETWEEN FORD REPS AND MININDUSTRY SHAHINE

TAGS: EINV, ETRD, EG, FORD MOTOR COMPANY, (SHANIN, \'ISSA \'ABD AL-HAMID)

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/86e23245-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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